Kelly TOLHURST

A strong voice for Rochester and Strood

My priorities for our constituency:

1. Delivering Brexit
2. Investing in our police; tackling crime for safer streets
3. Efficient local community healthcare; accessible for everyone
4. Improved infrastructure for Medway's future; including our schools, roads, railways, and open spaces
5. Protection for our local environment and tackling pollution
6. Building a strong local economy; enabling business growth, and increased earnings for working people

Vote for Kelly TOLHURST on 12th December

Conservatives

A personal message from Kelly TOLHURST

I am standing again to represent you and your family, as someone who grew up in these towns. I am passionate about ensuring that this constituency, Rochester and Strood, has a strong voice, both locally and in parliament.

This election is needed to break the deadlock in parliament over Brexit. Rochester and Strood residents voted overwhelmingly to leave the EU and so I have consistently voted to deliver your wishes. We need to get Brexit done. Then we can focus on our positive and ambitious domestic agenda; fighting crime, delivering health services, and protecting our environment.

Kelly Tolhurst

Standing up for more investment in our local healthcare

As national spending on health continues to go up, our local healthcare is one of my highest priorities. A lot has been achieved already. I welcomed the extra £6.5 million for the South East Coast Ambulance service. I supported the strengthening of Medway Hospital, which has received £18 million for a brand new emergency department. Medway and Maidstone hospitals will receive an upgrade for cancer testing and detection technology with funding for new breast screening equipment, CT and MRI scanners.

I am continuing to champion even more services and investment for Medway, with the government providing the biggest cash boost ever for the NHS.

My focus is on working with our local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to improve accessible GP services and mental health provision right across the constituency.

For a strong and effective MP who will be accountable to you, vote Kelly TOLHURST on 12th December

Did you know?

- We are the first major economy to legislate for **Net Zero emissions by 2050**, ambitiously tackling climate issues.
- We introduced a **world leading ban on Microbeads**. We are committed to reduce plastic waste, cut air pollution, and restore biodiversity in our landscapes.
- We are overseeing the biggest **upgrade of workers' rights** in 20 years, and committed to ending low pay, by **increasing the National Living Wage to £10.50** for everyone 21 and over, by 2024.
- The number of people claiming unemployment benefits in Rochester and Strood has fallen by 450 since 2013 and we are **creating more jobs**, with 9,900 more people in work since 2010.
- We have **cut taxes for thousands of people** in Rochester and Strood, and even more of the lowest paid will pay no income tax at all.
- We have invested in our railway services and stations locally with new infrastructure and **more frequent and longer trains**.
- We are investing an **additional £2.2 billion** for the Armed Forces next year and created a **new Office for Veterans' Affairs** to provide lifelong support to our forces.

Kelly backs police recruitment and tackling crime

Local policing keeps our streets safe. Working with Matthew Scott, our Conservative Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Kent Police, we secured extra funding to help tackle the causes of violent crime, supporting multi-agency preventative work, and a successful bid from the Government's 'Early Intervention Youth fund'.

The Home Office's commitment to deliver more than 20,000 extra police officers means we will see an extra 147 officers in addition to our PCC's plan for an extra 450 by March 2020.

Having spent time out on patrol with our Medway Police Officers, I have seen first-hand that we must back our officers to keep us safe. So, I support the government's policy to make it easier for our police to use emergency stop and search powers.

GET IN TOUCH

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Kelly supports multi-million pound regeneration and investment

I have been actively campaigning for investment in our town centres and have supported central government bids for further funding. This includes Medway Council's £14 million Future High Streets Fund bid to transform our high streets and make them fit for the future.

Medway has also won a £1.6 million bid from the Historic High Streets Fund which will be used to support heritage-led regeneration and aims to find new ways to revive our historic high streets.

Delivery of better digital connectivity, with the Government's £1 billion commitment to improving 4G mobile phone coverage and a further £5 billion for faster broadband services, will boost local business productivity and support residents in rural areas. Investing to help people live, work and travel around the constituency through regeneration and job creation.

Supporting young people to succeed

The Government has announced the biggest investment in our schools and teachers in a decade.

In Rochester and Strood, this means a 5.07% average increase in per pupil funding and raising teachers' salaries and benefits.

Since 2017, I have held two large Careers Fairs which were attended by over 500 young people and jobseekers. I am proud that over 1,200 young people in Rochester and Strood have started an apprenticeship so far this year. I will continue to work with businesses to ensure our local area is an attractive place for young people to start their working lives.

Election Communication

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